

# Utah Fatal Crash Summary 2013

**Preliminary Totals**



**State of Utah  
Department of Public Safety  
Highway Safety Office**

5500 W Amelia Earhart Dr #155  
Salt Lake City, UT 84116

801-366-6040

[www.highwaysafety.utah.gov](http://www.highwaysafety.utah.gov)

## Summary

Utah has had a steady decline in the fatal crash rates over the last 40 years. In 2013, there were 220 people killed in traffic crashes on public roadways in Utah. This was the second lowest total of traffic deaths in Utah since 1959, trailing only the 217 deaths in 2012.

Utah made progress in the following areas in 2013 when compared to 2012:

- 18 fewer unrestrained occupant deaths;
- 5 fewer children (ages 0-14 years) killed;
- 4 fewer speed-related deaths;
- 4 fewer failed to yield deaths;
- 3 fewer distracted driving deaths;
- 3 fewer deaths involving a teen driver.

Some areas of concern in Utah during 2013 compared to 2012:

- Traffic deaths increased from 217 in 2012 to 220 in 2013;
- Speed was a factor in 40% of deaths;
- 28% of deaths were to unrestrained occupants;
- 27 more deaths involving an older driver (age 65+);
- 3 more bicyclist deaths;
- 3 more improper passing deaths;
- 2 more deaths involving a drunk driver;
- 2 more red light/stop sign running deaths.

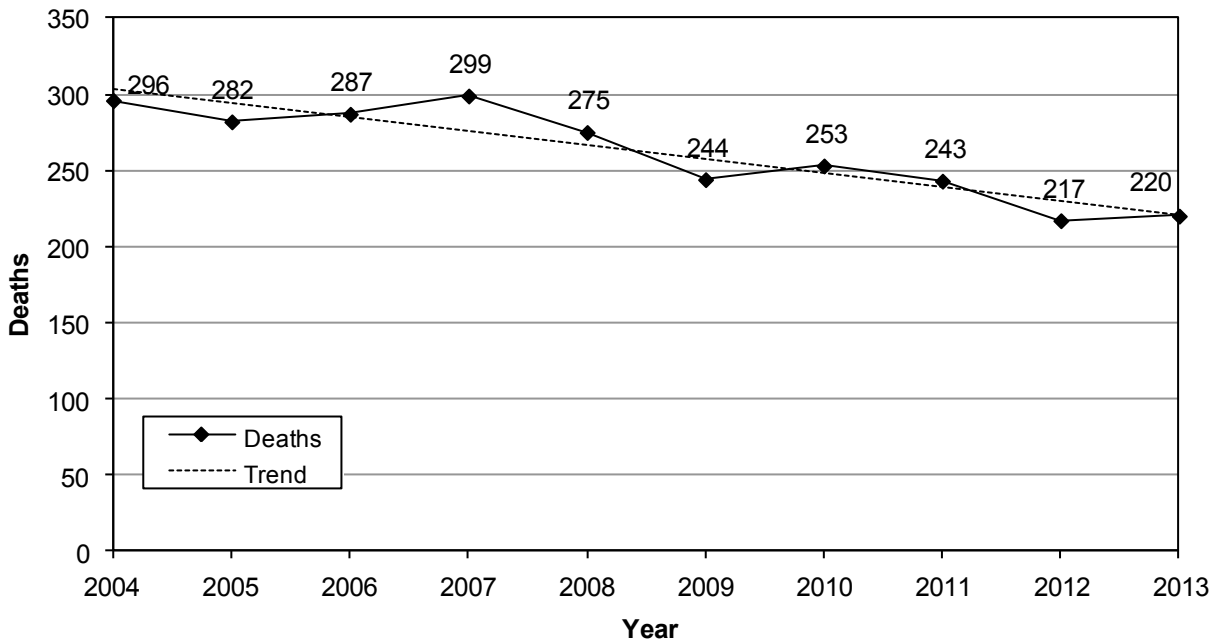
All totals are based on preliminary data and may change slightly.

## 2013 Utah Fatal Crash Synopsis

Category	#	% of Total*
<b>Fatal Crashes</b>	<b>202</b>	
Urban	123	61%
Speed	81	40%
Rural	79	39%
Older (Age 65+) Driver	46	23%
Motorcycle	30	15%
Pedestrian-Motor Vehicle	30	15%
Failed to Yield	23	11%
Teenage Driver	23	11%
Alcohol-Impaired Driver	22	11%
Large Truck	20	10%
Inclement Weather	18	9%
Distracted Driving	17	8%
Red Light/Stop Sign Running	16	8%
Drowsy Driving	11	5%
Followed Too Closely	9	4%
Bicycle-Motor Vehicle	6	3%
Improper Passing	4	2%
Animal-Related	2	1%
<b>Deaths</b>	<b>220</b>	
Drivers	135	61%
Speed Crash	87	40%
Unrestrained Occupants	61	28%
Older (Age 65+) Driver Crash	54	25%
Motorcyclists	31	14%
Pedestrians	30	14%
Teenage Driver Crash	26	12%
Failed to Yield Crash	23	10%
Alcohol-Impaired Driver Crash	22	10%
Large Truck Crash	22	10%
Inclement Weather Crash	21	10%
Distracted Driving Crash	17	8%
Red Light/Stop Sign Running Crash	16	7%
Drowsy Driving Crash	14	6%
Followed Too Closely Crash	9	4%
Children (Ages 0-14 Years)	8	4%
Bicyclists	6	3%
Improper Passing Crash	6	3%
Animal-Related Crash	3	1%

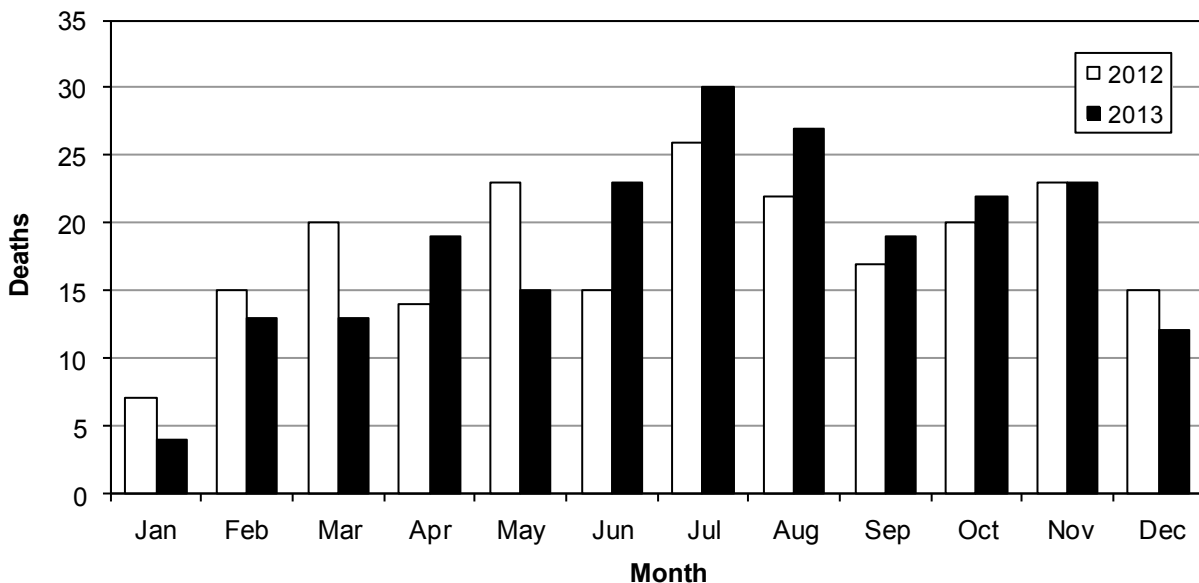
\* NOTE: Groups overlap and do not total 100%.

## Deaths by Year (Utah 2004-2013)



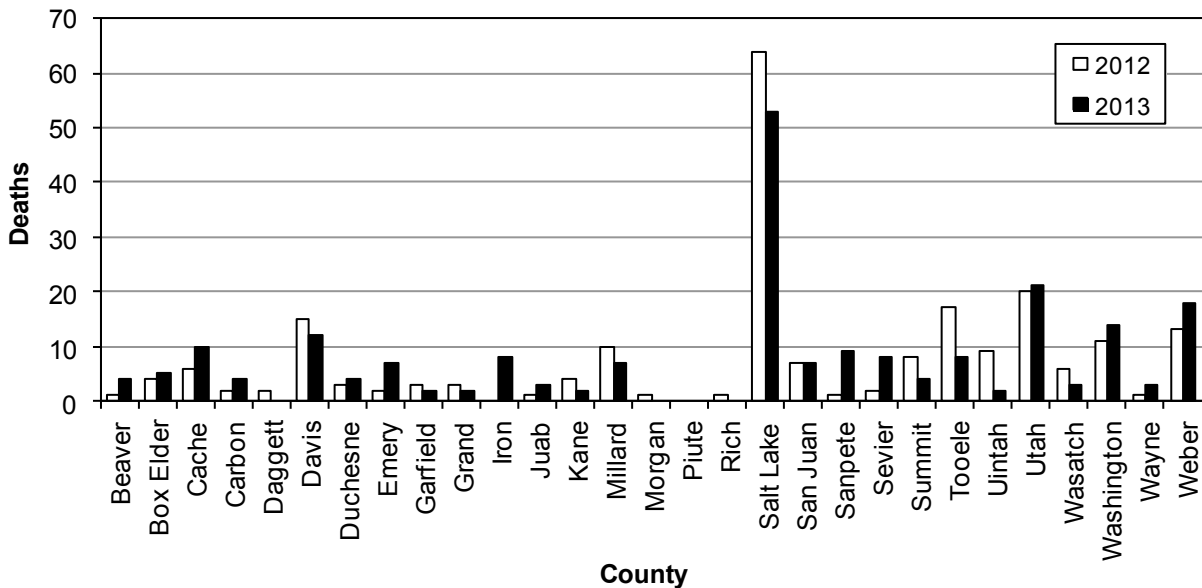
- Deaths decreased in 2012 and 2013 to the lowest totals in Utah since 1959.

## Deaths by Month (Utah 2012-2013)



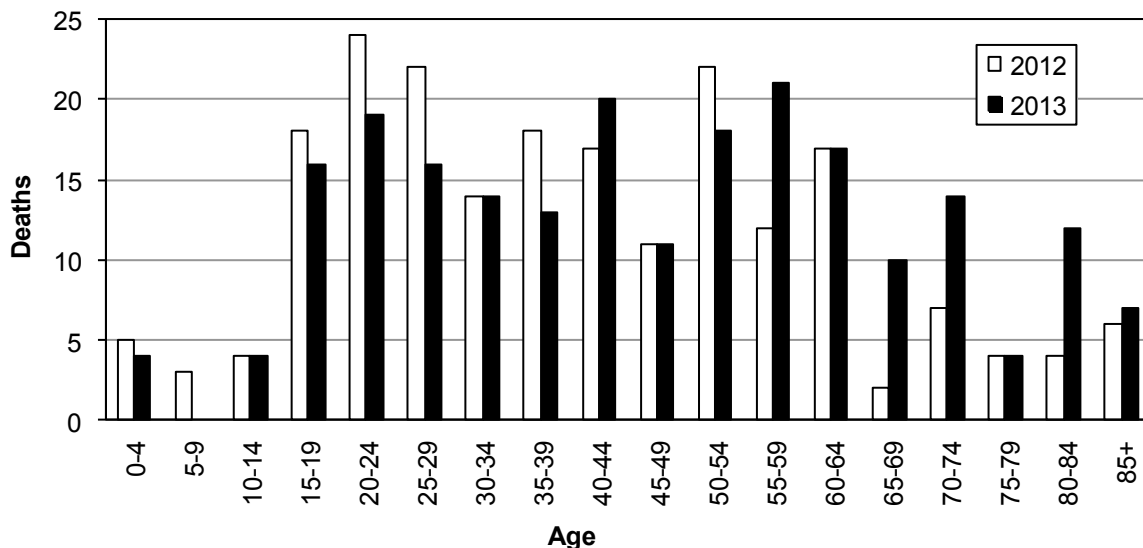
- July (30), August (27), and June/November (23) had the highest number of deaths.
- January (4) and December (12) had the lowest number of deaths. The 4 deaths in January was the 2nd lowest monthly count in the last 40 years. December had the lowest total for that month in the last 40 years.
- Compared to 2012, May had the biggest decrease in deaths with 8 fewer while June had the biggest increase in deaths with 8 more.

## Deaths by County (Utah 2012-2013)



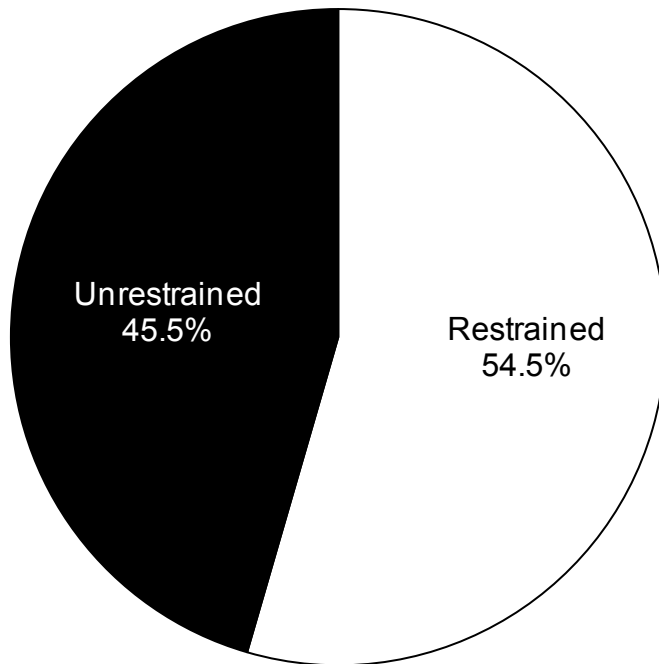
- Salt Lake (53) and Utah (21) Counties had the highest number of deaths.
- Daggett, Morgan, Piute, and Rich Counties had zero deaths.
- Compared to 2012, Salt Lake (11 fewer) and Tooele (9 fewer) Counties had the biggest decreases in deaths while Iron and Sanpete Counties (8 more) had the biggest increases in deaths.

## Deaths by Age (Utah 2012-2013)



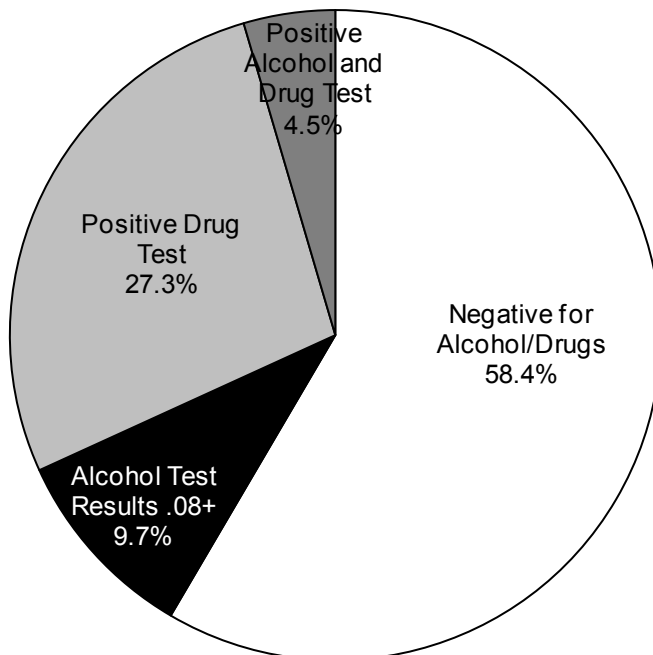
- 40% of persons killed in 2013 were aged 40-64 years.
- The average age of a person killed in 2013 was 46.6 years. In 2012 it was 40.5.
- Compared to 2012, the 25-29 age group had the biggest decrease in deaths with 6 fewer while the 55-59 (9 more), 65-69 (8 more), 80-84 (8 more), and 70-74 (7 more) age groups had the biggest increases in deaths.

## Restraint Use of Occupants Killed (Utah 2013)



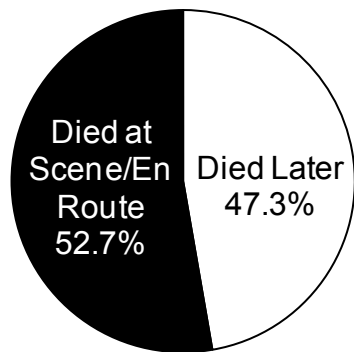
- There were 61 deaths to unrestrained occupants.

## Alcohol and Drug Test Results of Drivers in Fatal Crashes (Utah 2013)



- Of the 287 drivers in fatal crashes, 54% were tested for alcohol and/or drugs.
- Of the 154 drivers in fatal crashes tested for alcohol and/or drugs, 58% were negative for alcohol/drugs, 27% were positive for drugs, 10% were positive for alcohol, and 5% were positive for both alcohol and drugs.

## Died at Scene (Utah 2013)



- Of the 220 persons killed, 116 (53%) died at the scene or en route to medical treatment.

## Crash Type (Utah 2013)

Crash Type	# of Crashes
Single vehicle drove off road right	37
Single vehicle struck pedestrian/animal	30
Single vehicle drove off road left	22
Single vehicle control/traction loss	21
Other crash type	19
Vehicle struck another vehicle head-on	15
Vehicle rear ended slower/decelerating vehicle	10
Vehicle struck another vehicle straight paths at intersection	7
Vehicle struck another vehicle turning across path	7
Vehicle struck another vehicle turning into path	6
No impact	5
Vehicle struck another vehicle on same trafficway moving in opposite direction at angle or sideswipe	5
Vehicle rear ended stopped vehicle	4
Single vehicle end departure	3
Vehicle struck another vehicle on same trafficway moving in same direction at angle or sideswipe	2
Vehicle struck parked vehicle	2
Unknown	2
Backing vehicle	1
Single vehicle drove off road to avoid vehicle/person/animal	1
Single vehicle struck stationary object	1

## Pre-crash Critical Event (Utah 2013)

Pre-crash Critical Event	# of Vehicles
Vehicle traveling off the edge of the road on the right side	38
Pedestrian in road	28
Vehicle traveling off the edge of the road on the left side	27
Other vehicle encroaching into lane from opposite direction	24
Vehicle traveling through intersection	21
Vehicle loss of control due to traveling too fast for conditions	20
Vehicle traveling over the lane line on left side of travel lane	17
Other vehicle in lane traveling in same direction with higher speed	17
Vehicle turning left at junction	10
Other vehicle in lane traveling in opposite direction	9
Other vehicle encroaching into lane from same direction	8
Vehicle loss of control due to vehicle problem (flat tire, stalled engine, wheel fell off, etc.)	8
Other vehicle encroaching into lane from driveway/shoulder/median	6
Other vehicle in lane stopped	6
Other event	5
Other vehicle in lane traveling in same direction with lower speed	5
Bicyclist in road	4
Other vehicle in lane traveling in same direction while decelerating	4
Vehicle loss of control due to other cause	4
Vehicle traveling over the lane line on right side of travel lane	4
Unknown	4
Object in road	3
Vehicle departure at end of the roadway	3
Vehicle loss of control due to poor road conditions	3
Animal in road	2
Vehicle loss of control due to unknown cause	2
Vehicle traveling in unknown travel direction	2
Other vehicle encroaching into lane from crossing street	1
Other vehicle in lane traveling in crossover	1
Vehicle turning right at junction	1

## Previous Driving Violations in Past Three Years of Drivers in Fatal Crashes (Utah 2013)

**At-Fault Drivers**



**Not-At-Fault Drivers**



- 38% of the drivers in fatal crashes had been previously convicted of a moving traffic violation in the past 3 years. The highest number of previous violations was 9.
- At-fault drivers in fatal crashes were 32% more likely to have a previous violation.

## Pedestrian and Bicycle Crash Type (Utah 2013)

Crash Type	# of Crashes
Pedestrian failed to yield struck by motorist	9
Motorist failed to yield struck pedestrian	4
Pedestrian walking along roadway with traffic struck from behind	4
Motorist struck another motorist or object then pedestrian	3
Motorist struck a dashing pedestrian crossing roadway	2
Motorist struck a pedestrian that was in multiple threat situation	2
Backing motorist struck pedestrian on driveway/sidewalk	1
Bicyclist turning left struck by motorist traveling same direction	1
Driverless vehicle struck pedestrian	1
Motorist drive through signalized intersection and struck bicyclist	1
Motorist lost control of vehicle and struck pedestrian	1
Motorist overtaking and struck bicyclist	1
Motorist struck bicyclist head-on	1
Motorist struck bicyclist under unusual circumstances	1
Motorist struck pedestrian in dispute-related incident	1
Motorist turning left struck bicyclist traveling opposite direction	1
Pedestrian lost control and struck by motorist	1
Pedestrian walking along roadway struck from unknown direction	1